
Introduced by Senator Aanestad

February 21, 2003

An act to amend Section 101.7 of the Streets and Highways Code, relating to highways.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 710, as introduced, Aanestad. Highway exit information signs.

Existing law requires the Department of Transportation to allow the placement of information signs on highways in rural areas that identify specific roadside businesses that offer fuel, food, lodging, or camping services. Existing law requires the department to provide equal access to all business applicants.

This bill would require that the department provide access to all qualified business applicants, including a business that has never participated in the program. The bill would revise the provisions for signs placed before January 1, 2003, in an urban area with a population greater than 5,000 and less than 10,000.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 101.7 of the Streets and Highways Code
- 2 is amended to read:
- 3 101.7. (a) The department shall adopt rules and regulations
- 4 which allow the placement near exits on freeways located in rural
- 5 areas, of information signs identifying specific roadside
- 6 businesses offering fuel, food, lodging, or camping services and
- 7 which prescribe the standards for those signs.

1 (b) The department shall provide equal access to all *qualified*
2 business applicants, *including a business that has never*
3 *participated in the program.*

4 (c) The department shall not approve the placement of any sign
5 within any urban area designated by the United States Bureau of
6 the Census as having a population of 5,000 or more:

7 ~~The department may not remove,~~ *but this requirement shall not*
8 *apply to* an information sign that was placed before January 1,
9 2003, due solely to population growth in an urban area that results
10 in a population of 5,000 or more but less than 10,000.

11 (d) The information signs may be placed near the freeway exits
12 in addition to, or in lieu of, other highway signs of the department,
13 but not in lieu of on-premises or off-premises highway oriented
14 business signs and directional signs.

15 (e) The department shall establish and charge a fee to place and
16 maintain information signs in an amount not less than 25 percent
17 above its estimated cost in placing and maintaining the
18 information signs. The department shall annually review the
19 amount of that fee and revise it as necessary. Funds derived from
20 the imposition of the fee, after deduction of the cost to the
21 department for the placement and maintenance of the information
22 signs, shall be available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for
23 safety roadside rest purposes.

